

Washington, DC – Congressman Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-2) today voted to prevent scheduled cuts in Medicare reimbursement rates for doctors and to maintain the current Medicare rates doctors are paid through 2011. Absent this action by Congress, the rates were scheduled to be cut by 25% on January 1.

“These cuts would have adversely impacted the access to health care of millions of senior citizens in Georgia and across the nation because many doctors have threatened to stop treating Medicare patients if the cuts are enacted,” said Congressman Bishop. “Congress, however, still needs to work towards a permanent solution to prevent any further uncertainty for patients and physicians.”

The legislation (Senate Amendment to H.R. 4994 – Medicare and Medicaid Extenders Act) is completely offset and does not add to the federal budget deficit.

The U.S. Senate approved the legislation on December 8, 2010 by unanimous consent. The measure now goes to the President for his signature.

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